

## STAAR Alternate 2 Science Instructional Terms

The curriculum that will be assessed each year for STAAR Alternate 2 is determined by the essence statements that are selected for each administration. Teachers should refer to the Curriculum Framework documents for each selected essence statement to locate the prerequisite skills that are linked to that essence statement. Instruction should focus on the listed prerequisite skills. The teacher should determine what skills have been mastered and which need to be taught according to the developmental level of the student. The goal should be to assist the student in attaining the highest academic level the student is capable of within a given year. In addition to the prerequisite skills, there are instructional terms that students will need exposure to during instruction. This list does not encompass all the curriculum a student would be responsible for; it is a unique list of instructional terms developed by educator teams. Students need to become familiar with these terms as the student is developmentally able to comprehend the content. Students in higher grades need to also know the terms presented in earlier grades.

### Grade 5 Science

adapted, adaptations	balance scale	basic needs, survive, survival
characteristics: plants, animals	drought	Earth, Earth's surface
Earth's orbit	energy: sound, mechanical	environment
erosion, weathering, decay	five senses	flow of energy, food chain
force: magnetic, gravitational	globe	life cycle
living/nonliving	magnet, bar magnet, magnetism, attract	melt/freeze
natural resources/man-made resources	nutrients	object
organism	photosynthesis	physical properties: mass, texture, size, shape
plant decay, soil	population	predator, prey
rapid change	rocks, rock formation	sequence, order
sink, float	solar system: sun, stars, planets	states of matter: solid, liquid gas
temperature, degrees, Fahrenheit	weather, weather pattern	young/adult

**Grade 8 Science**

atmosphere	bodies of water, sources of water	boil
clouds	conditions in the environment	Earth's rotation, day-and-night cycle
energy: light, thermal	force: magnetic, gravitational, push, pull, resting	gravity
model	moon, moon phases	patterns of object's motion
physical properties: weight, flexible	producer/consumer	room temperature
shelter	water cycle: condensation, precipitation, collection, evaporation, water vapor	
<b>Biology</b>		
autotroph/heterotroph	body systems: circulatory, integumentary, nervous, respiratory	cells, tissues, organs, organ systems
chloroplast, plant cell	ecosystems	function, purpose
inherited traits/learned behavior	kingdoms	parent, offspring
parts of a plant	plankton	vascular system (of plants)